

Deputy Assistant Director for Operations -
Chief, Foreign Documents Division
Captured Documents

8 July 1954

1. The following information is submitted in accordance with your request.

a. Captured Japanese Documents - Documents were picked up in Japan by several agencies after the war. The Allied Translator and Interpreter Section of the Far East Command was the official theatre agency for handling captured documents. The Washington Document Center sent an advanced team to Japan to obtain captured documents and inso doing worked directly with ATIS. Most documents thus procured jointly and not considered a theatre need were forwarded to the Washington Document Center. Meanwhile, Navy had a very large organization known as NAV TECH JAP which procured Japanese naval technical documents of which some were forwarded to the WDC and some to various technical bureaus of the Navy and to ONI. Also, the International Prosecution Section held a priority for all documents which it considered necessary for its activities and withheld a large number that would normally have gone through from ATIS to WDC. The activities of NSA, at that time ASA, and OSS are not known nor have we been able to learn of the documents they received or still hold. Maps and charts and other geographical documents were forwarded to AMS in Washington and the hydrographic office of the Navy. Of the documents received by the WDC, about one a quarter million were transferred to the National Archives and about three hundred and fifty thousand were transferred to the Library of Congress. There are still about three thousand captured Japanese documents retained by CIA for long-range strategic value. It is believed that most of the IPS documents have been sent from Tokyo to the Adjutant General's Office in Washington. How many documents the Military Intelligence Service Group, FEC, (successor to ATIS) still holds is unknown.

As to the Konoye diary, it is believed probably that a microfilm is on file in CIA archives. As for the Kurusu documents there is no detailed information available at the moment. It is possible that reports filed by Kurusu while ambassador might still be available in the Japanese Foreign Office documents. In both of these cases a search will be conducted if you so desire.

b. Captured German Documents - Main repository in Germany was the 7707 Document Center at Oberursel. Documents flowed from this Center back to the German Military Document Section in the Pentagon.

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However, many documents were screened out and retained in Germany. GMDs retained, primarily, military documents. Other captured documents were transferred to the Army libraries, G-2, Signal Corp, Chemical Corp, Ordnance Surgeon General Engineers and a number to the Library of Congress as well as to the National Archives. At the same time, Navy technical people procured documents in Germany of particular interest to them; State Department procured the German Foreign Ministry documents, the Air Force procured air-technical documents both directly and through the Air Ministry in Great Britain which went to ATIC and have now been deposited in the Adjutant General's Office and the Air University. Several special collections of documents also went to the Hoover Institute and Library. Similar to the case of the Japanese documents it is not known how many or which documents were procured by NSA or OSS.

c. Captured Italian Documents - The only known captured Italian documents are about four thousand, held by the GMDs in the Pentagon. These are almost all military.

d. Captured Korean Documents - Captured Korean documents were handled by MISG, FEC and several thousand were forwarded to the AGO, Washington. These were screened two years ago by FDB for items of intelligence interest in the same way that the captured Japanese, German and Italian documents were.

e. Current Status - Documents forwarded to the Library of Congress are still in process of cataloging. Documents held by National Archives are available to researchers. National Archives it is believed is anxious to release these documents in some way other than the relatively small German collection. Documents held by GMDs are cataloged and available to researchers authorized to handle confidential materials. Documents held by CIA are available to the intelligence agencies only. This presumably will cover those documents held by D/P from OSS days about which we can get no information. Documents held by NSA, so far as we know, are not available to any one except NSA personnel. Documents held by MISG are available to Far East theatre intelligence agencies. Meanwhile, negotiations were conducted by the State Department in connection with the Japanese peace treaty. The agreement was reached to return the documents to Japanese Foreign Office. Those held by CIA have been in the process of return after microfilming. Similarly on the German side negotiations were held by State and Army on the return of German and Italian captured documents and collections of these have been in the process of return to Germany after microfilming.

2. If further details are desired on any of the above points or individual collections, I shall be happy to provide you with such information.

J. J. BAGNALL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Remarks:

Frank -

Bob Amory thinks you will be
interested in the attached copy,
original of which went to the DCI.

G.G.C.

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